

REMARKS

The present Amendment amends claims 1, 3 and 7, leaves claims 2, 4-6 and 8-15 unchanged and adds new claims 16-18. Therefore, the present application has pending claims 1-18.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact Applicants' Attorney, the undersigned, by telephone to schedule an interview to discuss the outstanding issues of the present application prior to examination.

Claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Berstis (U.S. Patent No. 6,212,327) in view of Yoshinobu (U.S. Patent No. 5,686,954) and further in view of Kinebuchi (U.S. Patent No. 5,802,244). This rejection is traversed for the following reasons. Applicants submit that the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in claims 1-15 are not taught or suggested by Berstis, Yoshinobu or Kinebuchi whether taken individually or in combination with each other as suggested by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Amendments were made to each of independent claims 1, 3 and 7 so as to more clearly recite features of the present invention. Particularly, amendments were made to each of said claims so as to more clearly recite that the present invention is directed to an automatic broadcast program recorder, wherein keywords, which are preliminarily designated by the user, are stored in association with reservation identifiers, that programs are automatically selected based upon program information and the keyword, the selected programs are stored in association with the reservation identifiers and the selected programs stored in association with the

reservation identifiers are displayed in response to the uses' input of the reservation identifiers.

Further, amendments were made to each of said claims so as to more clearly recite that the reservation identifier is different from information of the broadcasted program information and the reservation identifier is used to identify a set of at least one program that satisfies a condition related to the keywords. Thus, in other words, according to the present invention as recited in the claims the reservation identifier is used as indexing information for managing the keywords and a set of at least one program that satisfies a condition with respect to the keywords.

The above described features of the present invention are illustrated, for example, in Fig. 8 of the present application. As per Fig. 8, when the same program matches a plurality of retrieval conditions of different reservation numbers (reservation identifiers), different records showing the relation between the reservation identifiers and the file names of video data stored in the video recording file are generated. This configuration according to the present invention as recited in the claims allows for the same video data to be accessible using different reservation identifiers as input by the user.

Thus, for example, assuming that a reservation identifier 1 is assigned to Mr. X and a reservation identifier 2 is assigned to Mrs. X, then each person can have their own video recording file in the same recorder so as to automatically record and access, using their own reservation identifiers, video data of programs corresponding to keywords input by each person. Such independent recording of files is possible

by use of the reservation identifiers in the configuration as recited in the claims according to the present invention.

The above described features of the present invention now more clearly recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by any of the references of record, particularly Berstis, Yoshinobu and Kinebuchi, whether taken individually or in combination with each other as suggested by the Examiner.

As discussed in the Remarks of the previous Amendments, particularly the October 8, 2004, March 18, 2004 and September 9, 2003 Amendments, said Remarks being incorporated herein by reference, Berstis teaches the use of a user interface 100 as illustrated in Fig. 3 thereof for controlling a record/playback device. As taught by Berstis, the user interface 100 allows for the input of data including an indication of a device, data, action (record, play, etc.), channel, start time, end time, duration and keywords for use in automatically recording broadcasts. However, there is absolutely no teaching or suggestion in Berstis regarding the use of reservation identifiers in the manner and in the configuration as recited in the claims. In fact, in the Office Action the Examiner readily admits that Berstis does not teach or suggest the reservation identifiers and the use thereof as recited in the claims.

Thus, Berstis fails to teach or suggest that the keyword storing means stores the keywords so as to be associated with a reservation identifier which is different from information of the broadcasted program and which is used to identify a set of at least one program that satisfies a condition related to the keywords as recited in the claims.

Further, Berstis fails to teach or suggest that control means automatically selects programs to be recorded by checking the broadcasted program information with the keywords and stores video data of the programs to be recorded into a video recording file as recited in the claims.

Still further, Berstis fails to teach or suggest control means that stores the broadcasted program information of the selected programs to be recorded in association with the reservation identifier, controls the video data stored in the video recording file of the selected program in association with the reservation identifier and displays the programs in the video file associated with the reservation identifier on a display in response to the users input of the reservation identifier as recited in the claims.

The program information as taught by Berstis as described above is merely information indicative of a device, date, action, channel start time, end time, duration and keywords for use in automatically recording broadcasts. The program information of Berstis is not used in an indexing manner so as to identify a set including at least one program that satisfies a condition related to the keywords as in reservation identifier of the present invention as recited in the claims.

The above noted deficiencies of Berstis are also evident in Yoshinobu and Kinebuchi.

Yoshinobu similar to Berstis teaches the use of program information. However, there is no teaching or suggestion in Yoshinobu of information different from the program information which provides an indexing function relative to the keywords and selected programs so that a set of at least one program that satisfies

a condition is identified by the reservation identifier of the present invention as recited in the claims. More particularly, there is absolutely no teaching or suggestion in Yoshinobu regarding the use of reservation identifiers in the manner and in the configuration as recited in the claims.

Kinebuchi teaches that an individual reservation number is assigned to each program as described in col. 4, lines 44-48 thereof. However, there is no teaching or suggestion in Kinebuchi that the assigned reservation number is used in the manner as recited in the claims of the present application. Particularly, there is no teaching or suggestion in Kinebuchi that the reservation number is used to form an indexing function relative to the keywords and selected programs so that a set of at least one program are identified by the reservation identifier that satisfies a condition related to the keywords as in the present invention. More particularly, there is absolutely no teaching or suggestion in Kinebuchi regarding the use of reservation identifiers in the manner and in the configuration as recited in the claims.

Thus, as is quite clear from the above, both Yoshinobu and Kinebuchi fail to teach or suggest that the keyword storing means stores the keywords so as to be associated with a reservation identifier which is different from information of the broadcasted program and which is used to identify a set of at least one program that satisfies a condition related to the keywords as recited in the claims.

Further, both Yoshinobu and Kinebuchi fail to teach or suggest that the control means automatically selects programs to be recorded by checking the broadcasted program information with the keywords and stores video data of the programs to be recorded into a video recording file as recited in the claims.

Still further, both Yoshinobu and Kinebuchi fail to teach or suggest that the control means stores the broadcasted program information of the selected programs to be recorded in association with the reservation identifier, controls the video data stored in the video recording file of the selected program in association with the reservation identifier and displays the programs in the video recording file associated with the reservation identifier on a display in response to the users' input of the reservation identifier as recited in the claims.

Therefore, based on the above, Berstis, Yoshinobu and Kinebuchi each suffer from the same deficiency and therefore whether taken individually or in combination with each other fail to teach or suggest the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in claims 1-15. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC §103(a) rejection of claims 1-15 as being unpatentable over Berstis, Yoshinobu and Kinebuchi is respectfully requested.

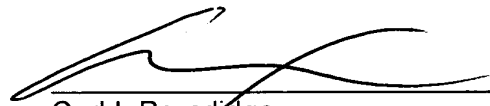
As indicated above, the present Amendment adds new claims 16-18. New claims 16-18 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 7. As indicated above, claim 7 now recites features not taught or suggested by any of the references of record particularly Berstis, Yoshinobu and Kinebuchi whether taken individually or in combination with each other. Therefore, the same arguments presented above with respect to claim 7 apply as well to claims 16-18.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants submit that claims 1-18 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of claims 1-18 is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.



Carl I. Brundidge
Registration No. 29,621

CIB/jdc
(703) 684-1120